

February 26, 1975

SENATOR SAVAGE: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we can talk theory all day about whether a drivers license is a piece of identification. We can say it's legally just to drive and all this. If anybody asks you for identification the first piece of material or information that you drag out is your drivers license. It has become an accepted and standardized piece of identification. I'm happy that the system, our American system, hasn't reached the point where we have official identification tags across our forehead or something else. We still have a very simple form of identification, the drivers license. If it can serve this additional function, I think we should be happy about it. I would oppose limiting where it applied. If it's going to apply, it has to apply to the whole state. Let's take this very useful instrument and make it serve the function that it is already serving. Let's make it do it a little more efficiently and let's raise the bill and get it corrected.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Chair recognizes Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, to me this is very definitely a special interest bill. It's my understanding that a counterfeit drivers license today costs ten dollars. We get this fancy one . . . (mic in-acted) . . . the price will go to forty dollars, and I think that's just too much money for those counterfeiters to make.

SENATOR SAVAGE: Is there any further discussion? Senator Goodrich. Senator Chambers. Senator Goodrich then.

SENATOR GOODRICH: In closing, Mr. President, I would like to bring to the attention of the body that 27 states have a provision for a photograph on their drivers license. If it is the wish of this body, for example, to have this bill amended to include the whole state, or any other provision in the bill . . . if this body wants it to go back to a new public hearing, we'd be happy to have it done. As far as using this bill to satisfy the merchants in their endeavors to cash checks, or identify people in that regard, the new electronic transfer system that is proposed in three separate bills in this session of the Legislature will make it virtually a check free state in five years any how, if these are adopted. That is not the prime purpose of this particular bill. In working up the conditions of this bill and the drafting of it, I worked with John Sullivan, the Department of Motor Vehicles Director. We amended the bill drastically to accomodate every one of his objections to the bill. I would also remind you that this is permissive. This is not mandatory. This is permissive only if the county boards of the three counties in question adopt this policy will they actually have it in their county. Thank you

SENATOR SAVAGE: If there is no further discussion, the question is whether we should raise LB 185 and place it on General File, despite the action of the committee. Please vote. Have you all voted? Please vote. Register the vote Mr. Clerk.